

COMMITTED TO DIVERSITY



DAVID LORNGEST/staff photographer

Kelly Greer was awarded the third annual Diversity Enhancement Award for her effort to promote diversity on campus. She has been involved with several multicultural student organizations and served as a service coordinator for Community Service-Learning.

BY KATIE THISELL
senior writer

When Kelly Greer first came to JMU almost four years ago, she did not know what her future would be like. As a black student on a predominantly caucasian campus, she felt like she didn't belong.

Greer was recognized for her efforts and commitment to diversity at JMU on Jan. 25 with the third annual Diversity Enhancement Award. The senior sociology major doesn't know what her future will hold, but she has hopes of bringing social justice and equal opportunities to everyone she can.

"You can never truly be strong in opinion and belief until you've talked with people who have experienced different lives," Greer said. "You can't experience it yourself. If you think everyone lives like you do, it'll shape your opinions, and really affect your

beliefs, especially about social justice."

Throughout her time in Harrisonburg, Greer has been involved with several multicultural organizations. She has been on the executive board for the Black Student Alliance, the Neo-Underground Railroad Conductors and Women of Color. She is a multicultural attaché at the Center for Multicultural Student Services, as well as a service coordinator for Community Service-Learning.

Dusty Krikau, assistant Director of CMSS, nominated Greer for the award in the fall. They have built both a business and personal relationship over the past few years, and Krikau said that Greer even babysits for her children.

"One thing that strikes me about her is that she really is altruistic," Krikau said. "She is consistently on the ball about how she wants the world to work for

everyone, and about social justice in general."

In September, through her role as attaché, Greer began a new outreach program of diversity panels. The program offers professors the opportunity to bring up topics and issues within classrooms with a panel of students from different backgrounds.

"I've always thought I have to be the one to speak up in class," Greer said. "When it's a black person's statement in a class of all white people, it represents the opinions of all blacks. But if a white person speaks up, they're just saying their opinion."

Krikau said that the program has helped Greer create a legacy at JMU, especially since only 11 percent of student enrollment is considered multicultural.

"It's difficult to have a conversation about diversity in

see AWARD, page 5

Students to cycle across country

BY KATE MCFARLAND
contributing writer

Push America is the national recognized philanthropy of Pi Kappa Phi social fraternity, and includes an event called Journey of Hope, a 4,000 mile bike ride across the United States from San Francisco to Washington, D.C. to raise money for people with disabilities.

The event started in 1987 when Bruce Roger, a fraternity member, decided to bike across the United States, inspiring others to do the same. Last year's twentieth anniversary journey included 92 members of Pi Kappa Phi. In order to participate, the men must individually raise \$5,000. Last year, the group raised more than \$500,000, and to date the organization has raised more than \$10 million.

The members cycle approximately 80 miles each day, stopping at local disability organizations along the way. The men, traveling from June 15 to Aug. 17, shower, eat and sleep at YMCAs and high schools along the way.

Sophomores Jason Lewis and Chris



AMY GWALTNEY/contributing photographer

Sophomores Jason Lewis and Chris Gascoigne are two students signed up to participate in the Journey of Hope this summer, and will bike from San Francisco to Washington, D.C.

Gascoigne decided to participate because they are both mountain bikers. While they had originally intended to bike across Europe this summer, they eagerly signed up for Journey of Hope instead.

"The guy who interviewed us said it completely changed his life to stop and help people with disabilities every day and see people in remote places that were happy even though they were disabled," Gascoigne said.

Since they decided to participate, the boys have been actively fundraising and training. While they are required to earn \$5,000 each, they have a goal of meeting \$10,000 for the cause.

The bikers give the money to

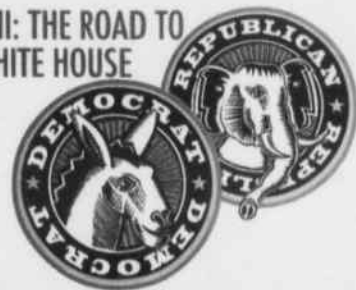
various charities that they meet along the way.

So far 81 students have signed up for this summer's Journey of Hope event. While Lewis is nervous about not raising the money in time, he is equally excited to embrace the "challenge and spend a large amount of time with people with disabilities."

Although Gascoigne shares similar anxieties, he is excited to get started.

"It's about getting the word out there to help the cause," he said. "The whole experience is bigger than Jason and I, it is taken so seriously because it is not about us biking across the country, it is the cause itself."

>> PART III: THE ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE



Primary instincts

Profs' thoughts on the candidates and issues after Super Tuesday and Potomac primary

BY KELLY CONNIF
senior writer

The presidential election continues to heat up as Super Tuesday yielded no clear Democratic frontrunner and the race remains open.

"I think it was certainly the big surprise that Super Tuesday was designed to give us two nominees and it did not," political science professor Marty Cohen said. "I think in many ways it reaffirmed the status quo going into Super Tuesday."

Although Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., currently has a slight delegate advantage over Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., due to his victories in the Potomac Primaries, his lead remains tenuous.

"But the question is if Obama is continually tending up, the longer he goes, the better he'll do, but there's a point where he may peak, and maybe he has peaked," Cohen said. "Maybe he'll peak next week, maybe he'll win before he peaks but that's hard to say and a lot of it will depend on the types of states that are coming up."

Political analysts are currently looking at future contests that are usually rendered inconsequential due to the fact that there is a clear

frontrunner by the time the actual voting occurs.

"If you look ahead to March, when big states like Ohio and Texas have primaries, Clinton would figure to do well in Texas based on the Latino vote," Cohen said. "And then, assuming it's not over, you have basically six or seven weeks of no-contests and then Pennsylvania on April 22."

While the Democratic Party is still concerned with picking a nominee, the Republican Party seems to have found their man in Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. However, despite the fact that he has emerged as the Republican frontrunner, he still faces remaining challenges in gaining a supportive conservative base while focusing on the national election.

"He's ultimately going to get the nomination, but normally when that happens the momentum is such that you seal the deal on a day like Super Tuesday, and that didn't happen," political science professor David Jones said, adding that after Super Tuesday analysis of McCain focuses on his problems with conservatives.

At this point, Jones thinks that issues like immigration,

see ELECTION, page 5

Lecturers share secret of female orgasm

BY ASHLEY HOPKINS
news editor

This Valentine's Day season, JMU students learned how to love the female orgasm.

As part of the University Program Board's relationship series, sex and relationship educators Dorian Solot and Marshall Miller educated students on how to familiarize themselves with their bodies, how work past the misconceptions of sexual education, and how to give, and receive, the perfect female orgasm.

Solot and Miller encouraged students to talk without inhibition the entire evening. Answering questions ranging from the truth behind female ejaculation to importance of the clitoris, the duo provided a funny, no holds-bar approach to sex education.

Above all else, the pair encouraged students to become comfortable with their bodies and to not be afraid to touch themselves, not just to figure out what they enjoy sexually but to keep track of possible health risks.

Solot knows the importance of this first hand. At 26 years old she was lying in bed when she happened to run her hand across her breast, noticing a small lump that had not been there before. A month later, at a routine check up, she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"The fact that I was comfortable with my sexuality may have saved my life," she said. Last year was her eighth year in remission.

The pair has toured the country, presenting more than 350 programs at colleges and universities, businesses, churches, regional and national conferences and adult education centers. Solot and Miller have gained media attention as well, appearing in magazines such as *Cosmopolitan* and *Men's Health* and television shows such as *The O'Reilly Factor*.

"We're also a couple, so we have professional experience as well as

see ORGASM, page 3

all about the...

O

• Half of the female population experiences their first orgasm by the age of 15. The other half are in their late teens or early 20s before they experience an orgasm.

• On average, it takes women 20 minutes to have an orgasm. Men take five to 10 minutes.

• It is possible for a woman to have a mental orgasm without physical stimulation. While researchers do not know how common this is, they have found that some women can direct energy through fantasy.

• The g-spot does exist. It is a small area behind the pubic bone, surrounding the urethra and about 2-3 inches into the vagina. G-spot stimulation can push on the urethral sponge, causing female ejaculation.

courtesy of Dorian Solot and Marshall Miller

MISSION

The Breeze, the student-run newspaper of James Madison University, serves student and faculty readership by reporting news involving the campus and local community. The Breeze strives to be impartial and fair in its reporting and firmly believes in its First Amendment rights.

The Breeze is published Monday and Thursday mornings and distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community. Comments and complaints should be addressed to Mary Frances Czarsty, editor.

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- Go to www.thebreeze.org and click on the classified link or come into the office weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
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CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 11 issue of *The Breeze*, the article "Queens for a day," Sabrina B. Miss Gay Harrisonburg for the 2002-03 calendar year and promoter of the Miss Gay Harrisonburg pageant, was incorrectly said to have raised \$2,500 for the Valley AIDS Network. In reality she has produced five shows that have raised around \$25,000 for the cause. Sabrina's next show will be held at the Lucy Simms Community Center on March 15. A large portion of the proceeds from this show will be used to produce the Valley AIDS Network fundraiser in September.

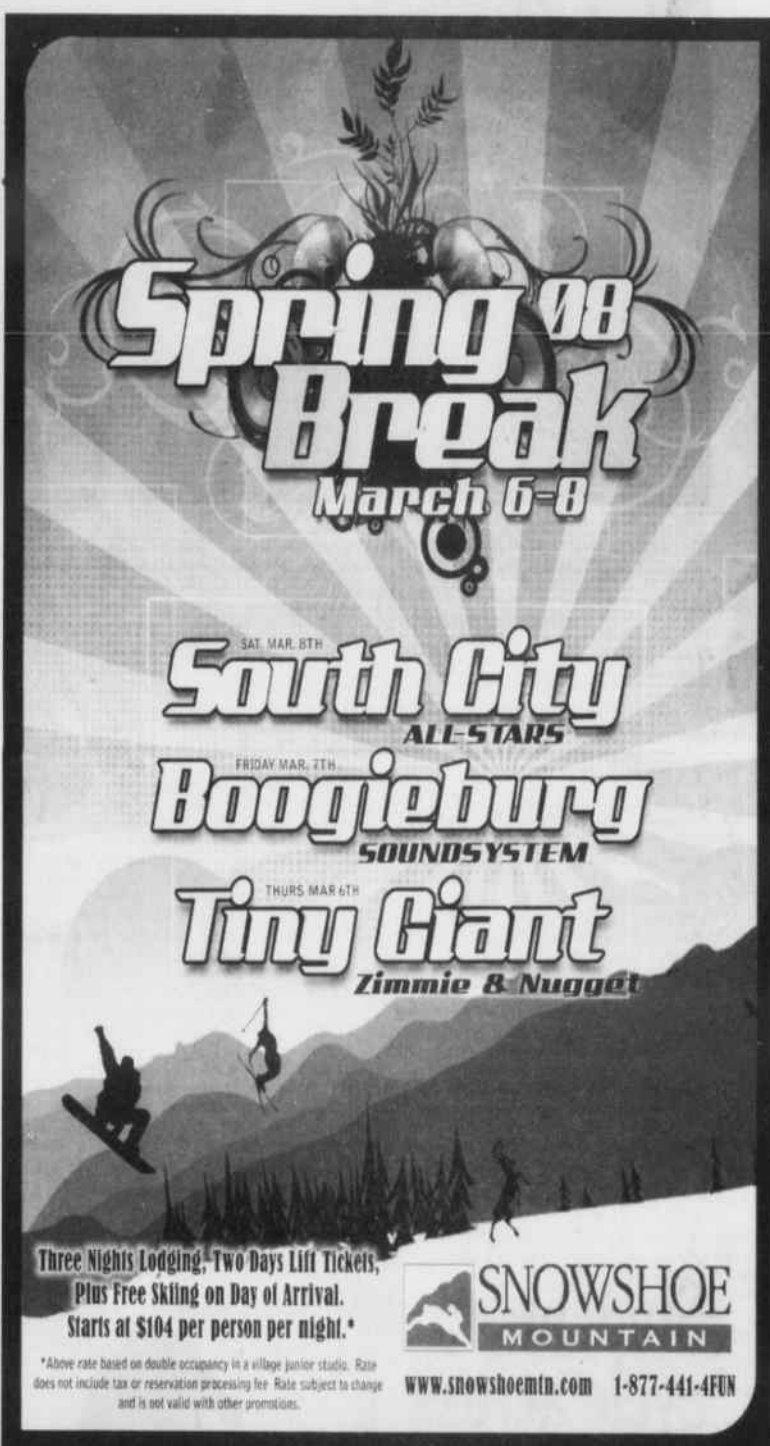


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EARTH club to host Valentine date auction

BY CAROLINE COURNOYER
staff writer

The EARTH Club is kicking off Valentine's Day this year with an old-fashioned date auction at 6 p.m. at Taylor Down Under, benefiting Mountain Justice Spring Break.

MJSB is a week-long trip of 100-200 students from around the country serving communities impacted by the coal industry, learning how to resist the industry and empowering people to make change through direct action, according to MJSB coordinator Eric Blevins.

In its second year, it will be held in Damascus, Va., March 1-9.

"One of the biggest goals is to bring national attention to the story of mountaintop removal and to the community impact that coal has on people's lives," said junior Marley Green, who attended the first MJSB last year.

Mountaintop removal has been occurring in Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio and Pennsylvania for over 100 years. The mountains are blown up to retrieve the coal from inside for it to be shipped out and burned so that it can provide electrical power.

If mountaintop removal continues, half of the mountains in southern West Virginia will be gone by 2015, according to Green.

"These are real, natural assets that provide habitat, culture and amazing recreation that are literally disappearing every single day," he said. "Anybody should be frightened by the idea."

Besides destroying the natural beauty of Appalachia, home to the most bio-diverse forests on Earth, mountaintop removal has an effect on climate.

Coal is toxic, unregulated and the biggest contributor to global warming according to Blevins. It is also the United States' largest source of electricity.

Cancer risk is 10,000 times higher near coal disposal sites, according to an EPA study. Coal-fired power plants release the largest proportion of mercury toxins in the US at 40 percent, according to MJSB.com.

The pollution from existing power plants causes 24,000 premature deaths each year, and there are plans for 150 more coal fired power plants to be built, including one in Virginia.

Both Green and Blevins have a positive outlook regarding the future of mountaintop removal.

Green said that he foresees a ban on the process within a couple of years of the presidential election.

"Bush is a massive roadblock," he said.

Affected communities are beginning to seek help and file lawsuits. Junctions have been placed on coal power plants and reform pieces of legislation have been proposed in Congress.

In 2007, JMU and hundreds of other colleges signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, pledging to decrease their amount of emissions and increase awareness of global warming.

"It's really at a critical moment right now because there is so much awareness and involvement," Blevins said. "It will be interesting to see how well we're able to resist this industry."

Green said that voluntary conservation is the first step in outlawing mountaintop removal.

"Everybody needs to realize the connection that they have to this process. Every time anyone turns on a light switch anywhere, you're calling forth energy from rocks from coal being burned."

SafeRides celebrates first anniversary

BY ASHTON SMITH
staff writer

On Feb. 16, SafeRides will celebrate its first anniversary, and members have plenty to celebrate. Having given 4,463 rides since their opening, SafeRides has established itself with over 200 members.

"SafeRides has come a long way since our inception in February of 2001," said Tamra Cornwell, executive director. "Our first year of successfully driving has been not only successful, but encouraging."

It has been a learning process, one that Cornwell remembers very well.

"I remember the first phone call we received," Cornwell said. "My hands were shaking as I was trying to write down the patron's information. It's just incredible how far we have come."

Not only has the number of rides given exceeded expectations, but the number of members has as well.

"The energy is much more intense, which is something we never expected it to be," said Amy Sale, public relations director. "We reached big goals this year, with technical things like nonprofit status, tax deduction, fundraising and upgrading."

However, the members had to work through some minor kinks to get there. The second weekend of fall semester SafeRides did not run due to a shortage of workers.

"Everyone signs up for three nights a semester through Blackboard, and we had times we didn't have enough people to work," Sale said. "So I sent out an e-mail to our members, and everyone really stepped up to make sure that didn't happen again."

Cornwell said even though SafeRides did not run, she got encouraging feedback from the organization's supporters.

"We actually got a positive response in support of the organization from administration," Cornwell said. "They were disappointed not to see us drive after all of the hard work that was put into it and gave us all the support we needed. We have not not run since."

One of the biggest problems SafeRides has faced is finding a national sponsor and maintaining funds to continue expansion here in Harrisonburg.

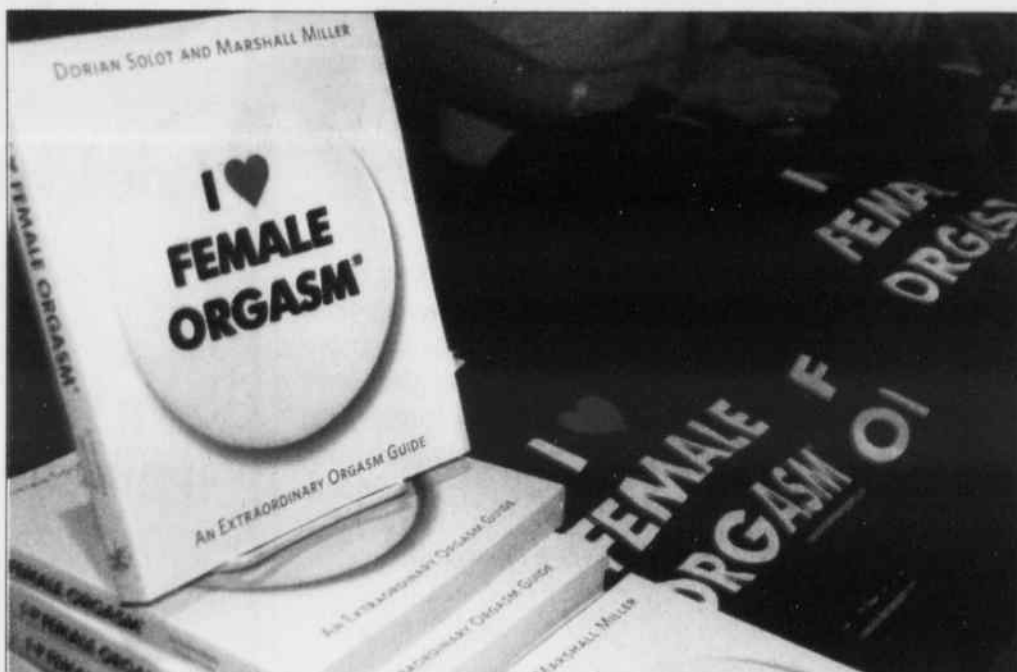
"We would like to have that cushion," Sale said. "Right now it is limiting us from running more cars."

It costs about \$700 a weekend to run SafeRides, including insurance, car rentals and gas. There are three cars running each night with one driver, a navigator, two phone operators and a linguistics operator. Even with these costs, there is \$19,000 in the bank for future weekends. SafeRides has spent around \$9,000 so far this year.

Sale and the rest of the SafeRides staff have been working hard to maintain funds to keep the program running by having fundraisers such as SafeRides weeks, letter writing parties and they ask for donations.

see RIDES, page 4

ORGASM: Student reaction suggests 'JMU is all about the O'



ASHLEY HOPKINS/staff photographer

Sex educators Dorian Solot and Marshall Miller presented information from their book "I Love Female Orgasm" to students Tuesday night. This event was part of UPB's relationship series, which will continue through this week. While Solot and Miller have toured colleges across the country, this was their first time at JMU.

ORGASM, from front personal experience," Solot said.

The couple came to JMU after junior Erik Hernandez read their book, "I Love Female Orgasm: An Extraordinary Orgasm Guide," and saw that they toured college campuses. He thought the program could benefit students who had been told that sex was bad and were taught abstinence over safety.

"I thought that in a school that has about 12,000 girls and 4,000 guys this would be a perfect program," he said.

Hernandez contacted UPB in June, and the group worked to get the duo on campus. Once the plans were set and the group knew that Solot and Miller were set to come in February, UPB started promoting the event. Despite advertising, members were surprised by the student response.

"We had expected 400 people and there were about 1,200 who showed up," said sophomore Kelly Patullo, director of special events for UPB, adding that the group had to make more space within the Festival Ballroom to accommodate students. Even with the provisions students were crammed into the room, sitting on the floor, in the aisles and in front of the stage.

Students' reactions were positive. While some came to gain more

experience in the art of lovemaking, others enjoyed being able to talk openly about relationships and sexual health.

"[I came because] I could use practice learning about the female orgasm," freshman Sal D'Angelo said.

His roommate, freshman Taylor Chiarenza, came for similar reasons. "I wanted to learn more about [the female orgasm] for my girlfriend," he said.

The females in the crowd, however, seemed to come for different reasons.

"Female orgasms aren't really talked about," freshman Ivy Walker said. "I thought it was a good way to get more information."

Freshman Erin Kwiatkowski also learned a lot from attending the event. She said her favorite part of performance was when Miller took the men out of the ballroom and down to the Highlands room for a separate discussion.

"It made it easier to talk without inhibition," she said.

The crowd's excitement didn't go unnoticed.

"JMU was an incredibly large and enthusiastic crowd," Solot said. "I would say that JMU is all about the O."

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

UPB presents free films at Grafton-Stovall

UPB rewarded frequent movie watchers at Grafton-Stovall with free films. Patrons can pick up Frequent Movie Watcher Cards, and each time they attend a movie they can get their card punched. The fourth punch is good for a free popcorn and the eighth is good for a free movie. For more information check out upb.jmu.edu.

Valentine's Day dinner special at Madison Grille

Stuck on campus but still want to take your loved one out for a romantic evening? Madison Grille is serving a special Valentine's Day dinner tonight. The three course menu can be found on the JMU Gateway and costs \$23.99. To make reservations, please call (540) 569-6924.

Virginia experiences widespread flu outbreak

According to the Health Center, Virginia has reported widespread flu outbreaks. The University Health Center is still offering flu shots. Call the University Health Center for an appointment at (540) 568-6178. For more information check out cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm.

VIRGINIA TECH

College 'Invent the Future' campaign grows 5 percent

Va. Tech's "Invent the Future" campaign grew five percent since the announcement of its public phase last October. In the first three years of the campaign, the quiet phase, it grew 50 percent of its \$1 billion goal. At the end of 2007, the campaign had raised \$633 million. Last month it received \$31.8 million.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

University to amend scholarship funds

The student council at the University of Virginia is currently looking into amendments that could establish a scholarship fund and make the appropriations process fairer for student groups. Proposals will be voted on in two weeks at the next Council meeting.

WILLIAM AND MARY

University president resigned Tuesday

Gene Nichol, the former president of William and Mary, resigned on Tuesday after holding the position since July 2005. W&M's rector told Nichol that his contract would not be renewed in July on Sunday, but Nichol chose to resign.

BE MINE?

Love,
The Breeze

RIDE: Group turns one

RIDE, from page 3

Regardless of its financial situation, SafeRides is looking forward to celebrating its first birthday with everyone that has helped make it possible.

"We are having a birthday celebration Saturday on campus for supporting faculty, executive officers, the general body and our members," Sale said. "We are also doing fun things in the cars this weekend to thank JMU like running through the McDonald's drive-through to get them something."

The festivities are taking place this weekend and Sale is excited to revel in the successes of the organization.

"We are spending about \$100 [on the party]," Cornwell said. "This includes printing costs for publicity, a birthday party celebration for administration and general body, as well as advertisements and goodies that will be passed out in the cars."

Not only do SafeRides' members want more exposure, but they also hope to further establish their name.

"We also plan to continue our development as an organization within the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, giving back to show how much we appreciate what they have given us, which is a rare opportunity to serve," Cornwell said.

Cornwell's hope is that the organization will continue to grow and become a stable group at JMU for future students.

"I look forward to coming back to JMU and hearing about all the wonderful things the organization has accomplished," Cornwell said.

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WHAT YOU CAN DO TO IMPROVE JMU

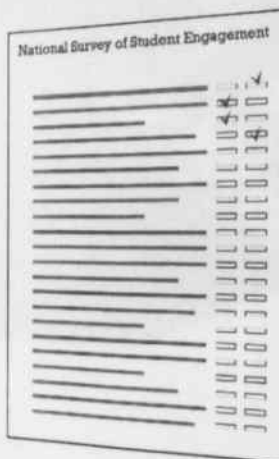
JMU participates in the National Survey of Student Engagement to learn more about JMU students' experiences and to see how we compare with peer institutions on a variety of measures. Previous results have led to improvements with advising, student-faculty contact, and an expanded Writing Center. Your help is needed in identifying additional areas in which JMU can improve.

The survey is administered on-line to a random sample of first- and senior-year students.

If you are included in the sample, please complete the survey.

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* For questions about the NSSE survey contact Randy Mitchell Associate Vice President for Student Success at 568-3787 or mitcherl@jmu.edu

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ROCK THE VOTE



JESSICA DODDS/staff photographer

Voters turned out at Keister Elementary School in Harrisonburg to vote in the Virginia primary. Senator Barack Obama (D-Ill.) and Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.) took the Commonwealth.

ELECTION: War no longer top issue

ELECTION, from front
for which McCain sponsored legislation last summer, might come to the forefront with the economic decline. Although in recent months many students on campus have called the war in Iraq an important issue, Jones thinks that the war is becoming less important with the general public.

"I think Iraq is fading in the general public, from some of the military successes, it's not as tragic and is less prominent in the news," Jones said. "The campaigns have moved away from it and to some extent, the news outlets just passively mirror what the campaigns are talking about."

In terms of media coverage, Cohen focused on

the intangibility of being able to understand what drives the media and its consumers.

"They don't focus on the issues very much at all, and politics is a game and contest for people," he said. "Whether that's the chicken or the egg: it's what we want or that's what they give us or whether they give it to us and we all take it, that's very hard to say."

Cohen also spoke about the youth vote and the positive effect that Obama could have.

"I don't think you can count on the youth vote, but Obama may be better suited than any candidate since Kennedy to bring out the youth vote," he said. "So if anyone can do it, it would be him. However, what do they call the candidate that relies on the

youth vote? The loser, because it generally doesn't happen."

Jones also cautioned against counting out election factors that many voters often dismiss as superficial.

"Leadership, style and personality always matter and it's going to be important because the differences between people like Obama and Clinton are vast," Jones said. "I think that's a big part of the Democratic race because they are so similar on many issues."

This article is the third in a four-part series that will examine how members of the JMU community feel about the issues raised in the upcoming presidential election. Check back in the middle of March for the next installment.

AWARD: Program grows with Greer

AWARD, from front
a class that's all white," Krikau said. "She took this program from the ground up. It wasn't even on my radar to do this. We've received glowing reviews from professors who have used it. The conversations are consistently exciting for everyone involved."

Currently the program has been used mostly within the social sciences, but Krikau hopes it will expand across all studies.

Greer was chosen from among three student nominees for the award by the selection committee in the office of the special assistant for Diversity, Jackie Rufo, executive assistant, said that though there was not the turnout of nominations the office had hoped for, each student was highly qualified.

"They were all worthy of the

award, and we appreciate all their hard work," Rufo said. "The involvement that Kelly has had with so many organizations since she started and the way she champions diversity made her stand out."

Greer did not know that she was nominated when she first received the news about winning from her mother. Greer was out of town and the notice came to her house.

"I was really confused at first," Greer said.

The award, a plaque and \$500 was presented to Greer at a semi-formal reception. Two faculty and staff members received awards as well. The Women of Distinction Awards were also presented.

"We try to make it a special point in their lives," Rufo said about the event.

Now, Greer is preparing for her life after graduation. She has considered a wide array of opportunities, from graduate school, to teaching abroad, to working within higher education.

"My heart is in so many places I can't decide what to do next," Greer said. "I've been encouraged by my mentors to keep in higher education. They've had such a large impact on me, and I want to have that impact on others too."

Krikau, who Greer called "my boss, my teacher, my mentor," has no doubts that Greer will have a rewarding and impacting future.

"Kelly can do anything," Krikau said. "It doesn't matter what field she's in, she'll bring social justice into it. Kelly has so many options, and she'll do great in all of them."

SGA RECAP

The Senate passed an amendment to a bill stating that any organization requesting a contingency to fund an event may make profits if they send the profits to a non-profit organization approved by the Senate.

SGA and Dining Services are co-sponsoring a scavenger hunt to show students the number of opportunities available to use dining dollars. Students will have to go to different dining halls and purchase a specific item in order to receive a punch. When all five punches are received and the cards are turned in, students will be entered in a chance to win a \$100 gift card to Wal-Mart.

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Text while you drive, you could end your life

Or so say proponents of a bill proposal to make texting-while-driving a punishable offense

Do you ever text your friends while driving to class? Your days of vehicular texting could be numbered. According to Anita Kumar of *The Washington Post*, the Virginia General Assembly briefly considered a blanket ban on text messaging while driving, or TWD.

TWD is when someone types or reads text messages on their cell phone while operating a vehicle. It is already a punishable offense for people under the age of 18 to operate a cell phone while driving; however, current laws protect drivers from being pulled over for TWD alone. Instead, drivers must be stopped for another offense first, making enforcement difficult. The newly proposed law, currently delayed for further study, would have made TWD a first offense, one punishable by a \$250 fine—regardless of age.

Though the bill's delay comes for a good reason—more research into its impact on emergency responders, among other factors—it is imperative that some version of the ban becomes law. It may seem like common knowledge that texting while driving is a bad idea. By definition, texting is one of the most distracting activities a driver can do. Text messaging requires at least one hand and two eyes—both key components to driving.

A quick text message, one using both hands, generally takes a few seconds to pound out. Transfer that to a car, and that's a few seconds the driver isn't paying attention to the road. Furthermore, behind-the-wheel texts take even longer because the driver usually devotes one hand to, you know, driving. It only stands to reason that text messaging is one of the most idiotic, dangerous things someone can do while driving.

Again, all of this seems like common sense, but I don't wish to condemn readers who text while driving—mainly because I do it, too. Back when I was new and naive to the whole texting experience, I had no idea how anyone could text while driving. The first time I saw a

driver typing away with me in the passenger's seat, I scolded him with many profanities.

My indignation didn't last long, however, as the next day I texted while driving to find out the score of a Ravens game. It's convenient, stylish and incredibly dangerous. Sometimes I can even deceive myself into thinking I'm paying enough attention to the road.

Despite the danger and despite preachy opinion articles, people still text from the driver's seat. According to the same *Washington Post* article, a Nationwide Insurance study found that 37 percent of drivers between the ages of 18 and 27 text while driving. In 2007, five cheerleaders died in a New York car accident, which was thought to be caused by TWD. The consequences are dire, but observation of any college campus shows that we won't stop on our own. A law is necessary. Unfortunately, there are some lines of resistance.

The most significant argument against the bill is the difficulty of enforcing such a law. How will police officers identify culprits? Police officers are perceptive individuals, and a driver weaving around the road with a bowed head would be noticeable. Observation along with questioning could determine TWD as

the culprit. Furthermore, the point of the law isn't to catch everyone. It's to deter enough people to make the road a safer place. I might not get caught, but if a friend texts me to complain about a \$250 fine, I may be more inclined to keep my phone in my pocket while driving.

I'm trying to quit, but I still text while driving. Regardless, I support this bill completely and will be sending this article to my representatives. Hopefully, lawmakers will pass it after further study. If the law is passed, it will probably turn Port Republic Road into a sea of blue flashing lights—but that beats even one set of red lights responding to a text-caused crash.

Martin Steger is a sophomore SMAD major.

Text messaging requires at least one hand and two eyes—both key components to driving.

Submit Darts & Pats online at thebreeze.org or e-mail Darts & Pats to breezedp@hotmail.com. Darts & Pats are submitted anonymously and are printed on a space-available basis. Submissions are based upon one person's opinion of a given situation, person or event, and do not necessarily reflect the truth.

Darts & Pats

An "olive-you-forever" pat to my elementary school sweetheart for his Valentine's Day plans to cook for me in the dorm kitchen.

From a girl who loves that you know food is one way to her heart.

A "did-you-really-think-that-was-free?" dart to the person who took the iHome system and iPod Nano from the free store on the commons Friday.

From a very sad friend who wishes to inform the person who took it that it is greatly missed wants who ever took these things to give them back to Students for a Democratic Society.

A "thanks-for-saying-I-could-vote-via-an-absentee-ballot" dart to the SGA who never made sure we actually received ballots.

From a disgruntled student who couldn't voice her political opinion because she chose to register to vote through you.

A "way-to-follow-health-code" dart to the Festival workers who offered someone a sample of chicken and, when she declined, ate it themselves and went back to work without changing their gloves.

From a man in line who hopes you know he is the one that turned you in and hopes you were canned.

An "it's-not-a-periodical-bed-room" dart to the couple laying on each other in Carrier Library Wednesday morning.

From a confused sophomore who couldn't decide if he was amused or disgusted by your pre-Valentine's Day graphic display.

Editorial Policies

Responses to all opinions published in *The Breeze* are welcomed and encouraged. Letters should be no longer than 250 words, must include a name, academic year, major and phone number for verification and can be e-mailed to breezep@breezeopinion@gmail.com or mailed to MSC 6805 G1, Anthony-Seeger Hall, Harrisonburg, VA 22807. *The Breeze* reserves the right to edit all submissions for length and grammatical style.

Editorial Board:

Mary Frances Czinsty, editor in chief
Evan Dyson, managing editor
Anna Young, opinion editor

The opinions in this section do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper, this staff or James Madison University.

Is Spain saving the world?

When it comes to consumption, the United States has a lot to learn

Before coming to Salamanca, Spain, I never considered myself a careless consumer of the world's natural resources. In fact, I counted myself "earth-friendly" by doing things like turning the lights off in my apartment before leaving for class or recycling plastic water bottles and yogurt cups. And when I turned the shower water off while I shaved or when I set the recycling bin out on the curb for pick-up, I used to feel like I was Captain Planet.

It took a move to a new continent for me to realize both my and the U.S.'s wasteful habits. I have several simple ways Americans could conserve the earth's precious resources. Every day, Spaniards amaze me at how well they conserve.

Take lighting, for example. Every public facility in Spain has motion-sensor lights. As motion-sensor lights turn on only when someone is using the area, they automatically ensure that lights are turned off and energy is conserved when that area is not in use. Some places even have lights that are on timers.

The Spanish also conserve lighting in their houses. A person leaving a room turns off the light or TV, even if she plans to return in a minute.

I cannot count how many times my madre has reprimanded me for walking into my housemate's room without first turning off the light in my room. Three weeks and several scolds later, I am learning to save

electricity like a Spaniard.

In addition to lighting, public facilities in Spain have other conservation tricks up their sleeves. For instance, in Spain the concept of a "to go" cup does not exist. Think of how many paper cups Americans use daily from coffee shops alone.

In Spain, not only are the ceramic cups reused, but the lack of a "to-go" culture means that if you want your daily fix, you have to actually sit down and take the five

...I used to feel like I was Captain Planet.

minutes out of your hectic life to drink it. Imagine!

Grocery stores in Spain employ another trick: They charge customers for grocery bags. Sure enough, when my friend and I realized we had to pay for that second bag, we gave it back and piled our purchases into one bag. Money saved. Natural resources saved. Earth (closer to being) saved.

At home, Spaniards are just as adept at conserving electricity and other resources as in public buildings. Most households air-

dry laundry. If you walk down any residential street in Salamanca on a breezy day, you see clothes flapping on balcony railings like exotic birds.

In addition to saving electricity, my madre has also introduced me to a whole new level of recycling. In the United States, I felt proud of myself when I recycled a plastic yogurt cup. My madre recycles the lid to the yogurt container.

In the United States, I patted myself on the back when I recycled a newspaper. My madre recycles the paper wrapper to a tea bag. My conservation efforts in the United States made me feel like I was planting trees. Here, Spaniards are teaching me to plant forests.

From sensor lights to grocery bags with price tags, Spain has shown me just how far behind the United States lags in its efforts to protect our earth's resources. Recycling and turning lights off are simple things we can all take the time to do.

Our participation in Earth Hour, a global movement to turn off all lights and conserve energy for one hour at 8 p.m. on March 29, would be an easy first step towards improving U.S.'s role in conserving resources, and after that organized hour ends, what's there to stop us from continuing to save the world, one yogurt lid at a time?

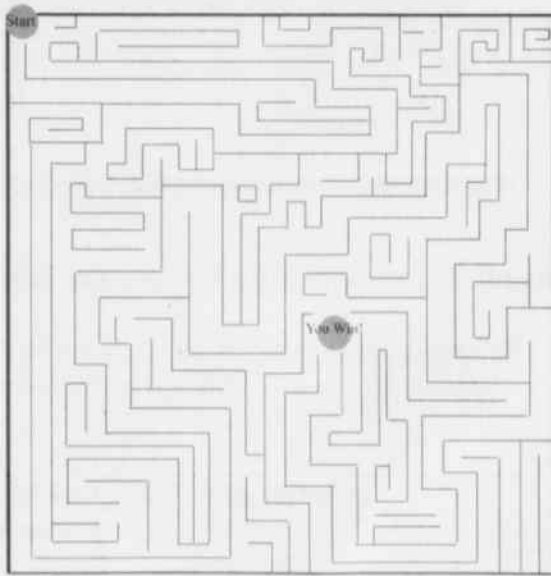
Kathie Hagy is a junior English major, studying abroad in Salamanca, Spain.

TEST YOUR SKILLS WITH A BREEZE MAZE!

After you are victorious, solve this brain teaser:

At a party, everyone shook hands with everybody else. There were 66 handshakes. How many people were at the party?
(turn to page 13 for the answer)

LAUREN PACK/art director



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The cast of Tennessee Williams' "Suddenly Last Summer" prepares for Tuesday night's performance backstage at Theatre II.

DAVID LONNGUEST/staff photographer

it's show time

Theatre II heads back in time with 'Suddenly Last Summer'

BY SARAH MOORE
contributing writer

"I know it's a hideous story, but it's a true story of our time and the world we live in," freshman Kaitlyn Benetz said as playing Catherine Holly in Theatre II's Monday night production of Tennessee Williams's disturbing play "Suddenly Last Summer."

"Suddenly Last Summer" may not exactly be a true depiction of our time and our world, since the play was written for audiences in the '50s, but it certainly is hideous. The play drives and twists through a series of clues about the true nature of the characters involved, namely Williams's somewhat-autobiographical character, Sebastian, who never actually appears on set. Throughout the play, characters make allusions to the truth about Sebastian's possible sexual relationships with children, his mother and his cousin.

But the end of the play leads the audience to a rather inconclusive place, where people are left with more questions than answers. The play abruptly ends with the hideous revelation that Sebastian has been killed and cannibalized by a band of children.

The audience on Monday night was clearly confused and uncomfortable when the production ended, not knowing exactly when to applaud or what to make of a play with no clear answers.

But this may have been just what Williams intended with the play.

The director, senior Stephanie Ganacoplos, said she was drawn to the content of the play because it was "beautifully disturbing."

"I hope this play leaves the audience in a state of self-reflection," she said. "It's not black and white. Things are not black and white like that, they just aren't."

Sophomore Leslie Pumphrey liked William's play.

"I feel like there was a lot that was left out," she said. "I wanted to see more of it, the audience was just left with this mystery. There wasn't closure, but that's just the play itself."

Sophomore Shauna Gordon agreed.

"I liked it, it was very intense and just extremely emotionally charged throughout the entire thing and I like that kind of thing," she said. "The ending—I didn't see that coming at all. It's built up so much throughout the whole play, 'What was it? What hap-

pened?' It was different and very unexpected."

Gordon said her favorite part in the play was delivered by junior Laura Webb.

"I loved at the end when Mrs. Venebale reacted to Catherine, when she got up and semi-attacked her, or tried to, and yelled," she said. "I thought she did a wonderful job with that."

Pumphrey though Benetz did well in her role as Catherine.

"It seems like that was a really difficult role to play and being a freshman I think she just did a really good job of getting in touch with the character and being very emotionally charged."

"I liked the entrance of Mrs. Holly and George, her son," she added. "You knew that there was tension between them and Mrs. Venebale and it was fun to see that interaction."

Mrs. Holly was played by Christie Steele and George Holly was played by Zach Moody.

"I think that this is really appropriate for college," Ganacoplos said about the play. "It's about time for self-reflecting."

"Suddenly Last Summer" runs through Saturday at Theatre II at 8 p.m. each night, with an extra matinee Saturday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$3.

Senior dance majors showcase talents at concert

Student dancers display different styles in perfected routines, unique choreography

BY RACHAEL MCDANIEL
contributing writer

Since the start of this semester, senior dance majors have been striving to perfect their pieces for the senior dance program. Their hard work will pay off Friday and Saturday night as they perform their pieces for "True Life: I am a JMU Dance Major."

Since the beginning of this semester, each senior dancer has choreographed a dance and rehearsed on a regular basis. After many practices and rehearsals, the dancers have put their final touches on their work. Other dance majors in various academic years have been chosen to perform with the seniors.

Students have made each dance style unique by adding their creative flair. The program has different modern-based dance techniques that may vary from what many may expect.

Jasmine Smith, a senior dance major, described it as being "like art."

"This student production is a compilation of very intelligent and unique individuals who have worked hard in order to create movement with sentimental value," Smith said. "The way the body moves is one interest, but the passion behind the movement is what makes it great."

The senior dance choreographers are Meghan Ballard, Sarah Birgfeld, Jillian Boelte, Ashley Knight, Allie Larson, Lauren Matysin, Jennifer Potosnak, Jasmine Smith and Kate Yow.

Various pieces will be performed, including "Another Layer Left Behind," "...And Then There Were NONE," "Something in the Way I Move," "Ode to Cynthia," "As You See Yourself," "Insidious Behavior" and "Working Without a Net."

There is a wide variety of pieces ranging from sentimental to fast and fun, according to Smith.

The culmination of the dancers' hard work takes place Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in Godwin Hall, Room 355. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$4 with a JAC Card and \$8 for the general public.

Artist Xu Bing to speak tonight at Memorial Hall

BY MARY FRANCES CZARSTY
senior writer

Chinese-born artist Xu Bing, famous for his art aimed at transcending cultural boundaries, will deliver a lecture Feb. 14 at Memorial Hall. The lecture, entitled "Picturing Equality: A Conversation with Xu Bing" is part of the Institute for Visual Studies' ongoing mission of enabling students to become visually literate.

Bing has explored the relationship between image and text and language and culture in much of his art. He has said that his current creative effort, "Book from the Ground," is an attempt to create a universal visual language.

Bing experienced China's "Cultural Revolution," initiated by Mao Zedong in the 1960s, and spent two years relocated in the countryside. He later attended the Central Academy of Fine Art in Beijing, and currently lives in the United States.

An exhibit chronicling some of his work, including some pieces never before exhibited, is located in the Sawhill Gallery through Feb. 26.

**out
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about**
What's happening
around the 'Burg

FRIDAY: Children's theater show

The Masterpiece Season performance, "If You Give a Pig a Party," is based on the award winning children's book by Laura Numeroff. A carnival of music and festivity, it appeals to kids and adults alike. Tickets are \$10 for students and can be purchased at the Box Office in Harrison Hall. The performance will be in Wilson Hall at 7:30 p.m.



SATURDAY: 'Through Her Eyes'

As part of the Uganda Child Soldier Awareness Week a collection of photographs taken in Northern Uganda by artist Joseph Michael will be on display in the Prism Gallery at the Festival Conference and Student Center from 7-9 p.m. A reception will also be held for the event.



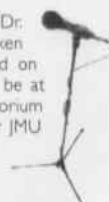
SATURDAY: Souler Coaster at The Pub

Richmond-based band Souler Coaster, specializing in danceable funk, R&B and disco music from the '70s will perform Saturday night. The performance will feature live horns, four vocalists, guitars, keyboards, bass, drums and percussion.



TUESDAY: 'Dr. Goddess Goes To Jail'

Kimberly C. Ellis, known as "Dr. Goddess," presents a spoken word musical comedy based on a true story. The event will be at 7 p.m. in Wilson Hall Auditorium. The performance is free for JMU students and sponsored by CMSS, UPB, the Furious Flower Poetry Center and the JMU chapter of NAACP.



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Ron Turner,
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EXHIBIT GOING SWIMMINGLY



JESSICA DODDS/staff photographer

Various sculptures, including fish bowls, designed by George Mason students are on display at the artWorks Gallery through Feb. 23. The exhibit is part of a sculpture exchange program with JMU students who will display their work at GMU.

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No 'shoelaces' for USA, no move for Mickey Matthews

BY MATTHEW MCGOVERN
assistant sports editor

Mickey Matthews didn't get much sleep Monday night. The JMU football coach interviewed Monday at the University of South Alabama as a candidate for its inaugural head coaching position.

According to Matthews, South Alabama never formally offered him the job. But hypothetical questions were involved in the negotiations, face-to-face and over the phone.

"There were certainly questions like 'If we offer this job would you accept it,' which is a very leading question," Matthews said Wednesday morning at an interview at the Plecker Athletic Performance Center.

Matthews had met with his assistant coaches at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday to announce his decision, meeting with his players afterwards at a team meeting.

While it was reported that USA offered him the job Tuesday night, Matthews said those words were never actually spoken. According to him, a phone call Tuesday inviting him back to Mobile, Ala. was the strongest indication that an offer was forthcoming.

"There were very intense negotiations on both sides," Matthews said. "I realized when they wanted to fly us back down there a second time that an offer could be possible and I needed to make a decision."

Matthews called "family considerations" the main reason he stayed, but also cited concern for his coaching staff at JMU and their dedication to the program.

"I was concerned about their salary structure for their assistant coaches, that I may not be able to take my entire staff with me," Matthews said. "People don't know, when the head coach resigns everyone resigns."

Had Matthews taken the job, he would have potentially been given a raise from the roughly \$215,000-\$230,000 he currently makes at JMU with extras such as television and radio deals. South Alabama is reportedly offering between \$200,000 and \$275,000 for its inaugural head coach.

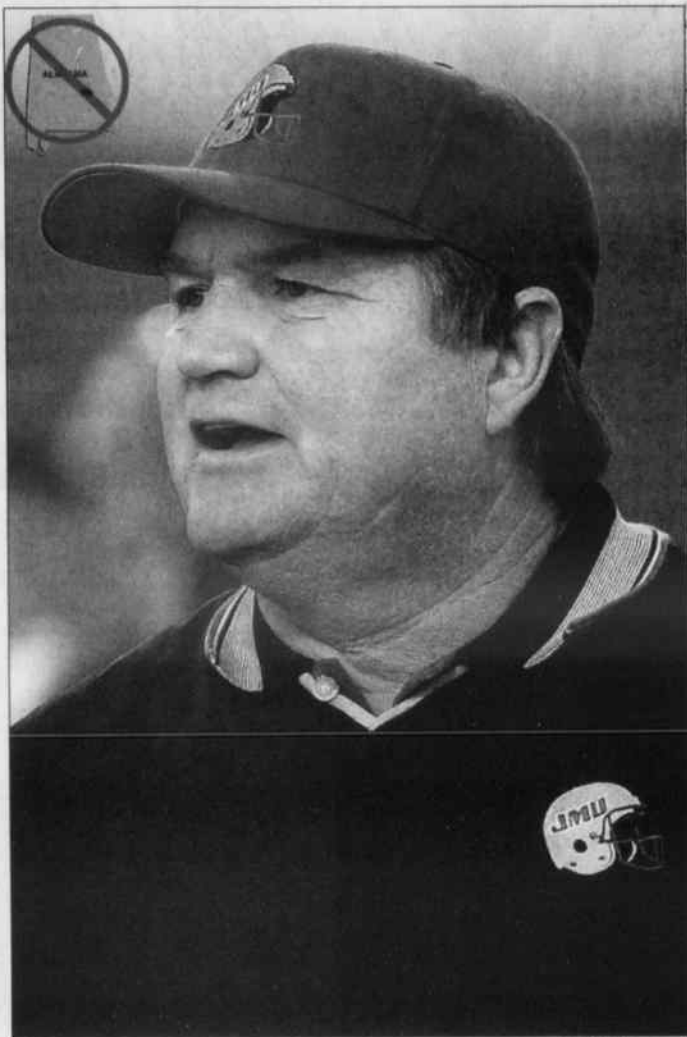
JMU offered Matthews an extension and a pay raise Feb. 4, and Athletic Director Jeff Bourne reportedly expected a revised contract to be presented to Matthews Wednesday. The original offer was made before USA athletic director Joe Gottfried asked JMU for permission to speak with Matthews.

"We're very pleased with Coach Matthews' decision to remain as head football coach at JMU," Bourne said in a statement released Wednesday.

South Alabama, a Sun Belt Conference school, is starting its football program from scratch and plans to compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division I-A) by 2013.

USA President Gordon Moulton announced the formation of a search committee with the goal of finding the Jaguars' first coach on Dec. 20, 2007.

"South Alabama's a great situation, it's gonna be a very good Division I football job



CATHY KUSHNER/sports media

After what he called "intense negotiations" with South Alabama, JMU coach Mickey Matthews decided to stay put.

for someone," Matthews said. "They have a great athletic director, they have great fan support in [their] future. I didn't dislike anything I saw in Mobile, Alabama in terms of winning football games."

But besides a pay raise, South Alabama didn't have anything of major significance for Matthews to like, either. The USA administration has organized construction of a 50,000 square-foot football support building similar to JMU's Plecker Athletic Performance Center, but the Jaguars are without their own football stadium.

"They've never played football before, they didn't even have a shoelace," Matthews said. "That was interesting to me, that you were gonna get to hire the secretary and decide what kind of footballs you

use and even the design of the uniform."

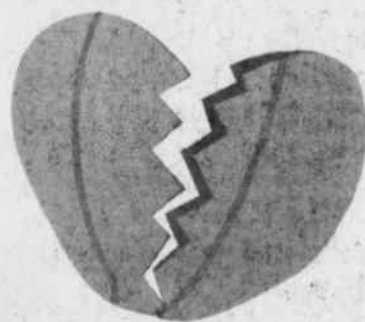
Matthews said that doing all those things would be an "exercise in patience," and that ultimately his heart was in Virginia.

The Jaguars will begin play in Ladd-Peebles Stadium, which has a seating capacity of 40,646 and has hosted the Senior Bowl for over 50 years. The stadium has also hosted the GMAC bowl, which invites teams from Conference USA and the Mid-American Conference.

But while USA continues its search for a head coach, in 2008 Matthews will coach his 10th season at JMU, with a 64-44 record and the 2004 national championship to his credit.

Yeah...I said it.

BY TIM CHAPMAN, sports editor



No one's Posing in in this relationship

Look around campus on this over-commercialized holiday and you'll surely feel the love. You'll likely see student couples from the Quad to Festival exchanging bouquets of roses and boxes of chocolates.

But don't expect to see a completely loving experience at the Convo. Junior guard Joe Posey and the JMU coaching staff won't be exchanging Valentines anytime soon.

Posey, one of the Dukes' twelve scholarship basketball players, hasn't been with the squad since he put in 16 minutes against George Mason on Jan. 19.

On Monday, Jan. 21, coach Dean Keener suspended him indefinitely because of a verbal altercation with assistant coach Louis Rowe late in the 96-75 loss to Mason.

The fourth-year Duke — Posey was granted a medical redshirt as a true freshman — voiced his annoyance after a lineup that brought JMU within seven points with 6:35 remaining, was broken up by substitutions.

JMU had trailed by as many as 21 to that point and Posey contributed to the almost-comeback.

"I feel like what I said at the time was right," Posey said in an interview last Friday. "I feel like it might not have been at the right time. I take responsibility for that."

There couldn't have been a worse time for the team or its last recruit left over from the Sherman Dillard coaching era — Posey was retained by Keener's staff despite being recruited by the previous staff.

The Dukes were already without junior Kyle Swanston — the team's leading three-point shooter before missing seven games to injury — and taking away Posey, who led the team in three-pointers last season, certainly didn't help.

Although Posey was struggling to find his shot this season he is a proven shooter who made 72 of his 166 three-point attempts to lead JMU in the 2006-07 season.

Through 16 games this season he was shooting just 23 percent from long-range on 48 attempts, but could have broken the slump and made a difference in the five losses the Dukes have suffered without him.

During Posey's six-game absence JMU has lost three games by five or less points, and freshman guard Heiden Ratner has missed having another option on the offensive end.

"Me as a ball-handler trying to find guys and get 'em open shots, I feel his presence missed out there," Ratner said. "I definitely feel he could be helping us now."

This isn't the first time that Posey has been in trouble. His freshman season he served a smaller suspension from the team for not running wind sprints at the end of a practice. He attributed the "rocky" start to immaturity more than anything, but did admit to not having the best relationship with former assistant Jake Morton.

"Coach's decision at that time I didn't agree with, but it probably did me more good," Posey said.

Posey said he feels that he has matured since that first incident and considers himself a good teammate.

In last Wednesday's JMU win over Towson, Posey could be seen sitting by himself in the lower section of the Convo across from the Madison bench. He felt inclined to attend for the first time since being suspended, because Swanston, his roommate, was returning from injury.

"He's probably one of my best friends at the school," Swanston said. "Not having him out here sucks."

Swanston added that he's encouraged Posey to try and speak with the coaches, but neither side has budged in a situation that's starting to look more and more permanent.

Posey said he wants the best for his teammates, isn't mad at Keener and doesn't want to be a distraction to the program.

Keener has continued to not comment on the situation saying "Everything's all internal at this point."

"I don't know why it's internal and part of the team if I'm not part of the team," Posey said in response Monday.

Rowe, a 1995 JMU alumnus and former Duke, was more animated Monday when approached about the issue, saying vehemently he was "not gonna talk about anything to do with Joe Posey."

If Keener is able to salvage this season to please athletic director Jeff Bourne and continue his reign, Joe Posey will probably not be wearing purple and gold again.

There seems to be a rift between the two that has intensified this year. Posey said that players are allowed to give input on the bench during the game. After all, it is a game that brings out irrational emotions in the heat of competition.

"I think Pierre Curtis does a good job vocally," Posey said. "Letting coach know if he sees something in the defense that maybe some of the coaches are overlooking."

But if Curtis had let his emotions get the best of him would Rowe and Keener have acted so sternly towards the sophomore from Denver? Or is Keener, for some deeper reason HE has decided not to explain, not willing to work with the one player who he didn't recruit but decided to stay and stick it out through what have been four dismal seasons.

"I was expecting there to be some type of punishment," Posey said. "I never thought that I would not be on the team going on three weeks. When I talked to him he was like it's indefinite. It could be three days it could be a week. That's exactly what he said. He was like I'll be in touch with you."

Keener still hasn't gotten in touch with his player and until he explains why, the lengthy punishment doesn't really seem fitting of the crime.

"A lot of people might say 'I don't think coach Keener really cares that much for you,'" Posey said. "At times I don't really think so either. I don't know."

Tim Chapman is a sophomore SMAD major with a concentration in print journalism.

Lacrosse matchup is no cup of tea

BY JACK MCAULEY
staff writer

Five time zones and over three thousand miles separate two groups of women, but on Wednesday they came together at JMU's campus for one reason: a lacrosse game.

It was the fourth time that the teams came together at Madison as the English national team played JMU in a preseason scrimmage.

JMU won the exhibition 11-6 led by 5 goals from senior Julie Stone and 3 goals from senior Annie Wagner. England, who played Richmond on Monday, played many of its younger players for the majority of the game including three 16-year-olds.

"Colleges in Europe are too small [so] there is no competition," said Lucy Lynch,

a member of the England and Madison lacrosse teams. "To improve, we need to come to play U.S. colleges."

As part of its tour to prepare for the 2009 Lacrosse World Cup in the Czech Republic, the team from England plays many of the top collegiate teams on the east coast. The team's current trip includes games against Duke University, University of Virginia, University of North Carolina and University of Richmond.

"We want to increase where we've been in the World Cup," England coach Lois Richardson said. "We want to improve our position for [2009] and the future."

Lynch's role as a member of the Dukes' squad provides the opportunity for Madison to face the English women. Wednesday was the second meeting between the two teams this school year and is used in order to prepare JMU for their season

opener, Feb. 28, against Dartmouth.

"For us it is an opportunity to trial everything that we have been working on against a team that doesn't know us," Madison coach Shelley Klaes-Bawcombe said. "It's a true exhibition."

The matchup is also a chance for England to play against a higher standard than is seen in Europe. According to Lynch, the pool of players interested in lacrosse in the U.S. is larger than what is available in England. She described the skill level in the states as "superior" compared to "amateur" abilities back home.

Lynch is not the only member of the Dukes who has international experience. Senior attacker Natasha Fuchs was a member of the U.S. developmental team last year and assistant coach Lindsay Lewis is currently a captain of the developmental team.

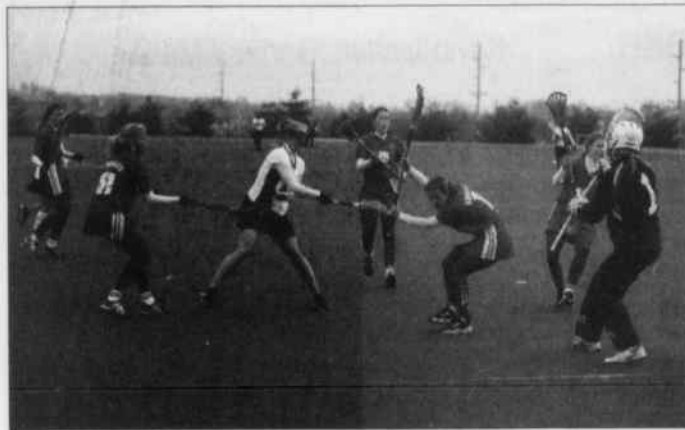
"It's a great opportunity for us competitively being able to play against international women who compete in the World Cup," Klaes-Bawcombe said. "It's a higher level of intensity."

Although the English team looks to compete against what it considers a more skilled group of players, the exhibition allows JMU to face a different type of opponent than they are used to playing against.

"They really do a great job of letting the ball do the work," Klaes-Bawcombe said. "They pass really well, they use space really well, and they are very physical women. It's a faster game and it's a physical game so it's a really great preparation for us."

The coaches from England hope to take aspects of the Dukes' game with them in their preparation for the World Cup. According to Richardson, her team wants to play the best that the U.S. has to offer.

"I think the one thing we can take away from the American game is the level of skill," Richardson said. "In terms of shooting, receiving and keeping of the ball."



AARON STEWART/photo editor

Senior midfielder Julie Stone (white) scores in Wednesday's exhibition with England. She scored five goals in the 11-6 win.

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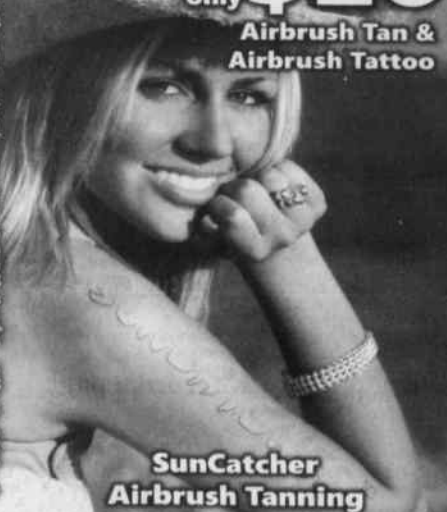
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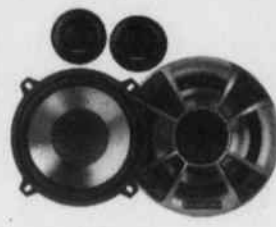


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	2		1				3	4
8		5		7			6	2
4				2				
	8		3					
		2				6		
					7		1	
				1				3
3	6			9		1		5
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